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Applicant:

Kazuhiro Shimura

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within any of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of First Office Action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements); or
- (c) before the mailing of a First Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continuing Examination.

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of foreign patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

A copy of the International Search Report is enclosed.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R.§§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sheet 1 of 1 Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Attorney Docket No.: 4386.75718 (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office Applicant: Kazuhiro Shimura INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) Filing Date: 08/22/2006 Group: **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** Examiner Filing Date Initial* Document Number Class If Appropriate Date Name Subclass FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Translation Yes No Class Subclass Document Number Date Country will 120103 Jul. 26, 1982 Japan follow 2002-95174 Mar. 29, 2002 Abs. Japan 9-298806 Nov. 18, 1997 Japan Abs. 9-247850 Sep. 19, 1997 Japan Abs. Oct. 7, 2004 Abs. 2004-281126 Japan OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) Date Considered Examiner Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation *Examiner: if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

THE R. P.